U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Browns Park

National Wildlife Refuge

Fishing and Hunting





Welcome



This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1963 by Public Land Order to provide sanctuary for migratory birds, conserve endangered and threatened species, and offer wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities such as hunting and fishing. Wildlife, solitude, scenic beauty, and cultural history combine to make this Refuge a national treasure.

This 12,150-acre Refuge is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is one of over 565 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System – a network of lands set aside specifically for wildlife. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Refuge System is a living heritage, preserving wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come.

This Refuge provides prime habitat for a variety of wildlife. More information about the Refuge's wildlife, habitats, management, recreational opportunities, and regulations can be found in the general information brochure available at kiosks and Refuge headquarters.

General Refuge Regulations

Hunting and fishing is permitted in accordance with Federal and State regulations and the following Refuge regulations. Please familiarize yourself with these regulations to help ensure a safe and enjoyable visit.

All commercial guiding and outfitting activities are prohibited on the Refuge.

This brochure contains frequently encountered Refuge regulations. Contact the Refuge office for additional information.

Hours

The Refuge is open daily from sunrise to sunset. After sunset, public activity is limited to the campgrounds. The Refuge office and headquarters is open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

Access

To protect wildlife from disturbance and minimize habitat damage, all motorized vehicles, off-road vehicles (ORVs), and bicycles must stay on developed roads. The speed limit on all Refuge roads is 25 mph unless posted otherwise. Driving off-road by any type of vehicle is prohibited. Watch for seasonal road closure signs March 1 - July 31.

Parking

Vehicles must park in pull-outs or within 10 feet of the road. Overnight parking is not permitted except for campers in the designated campgrounds. Overnight parking for river floaters is allowed with prior approval from the Refuge staff.

Government Property Individuals altering or destroying government property, including boundary fences, will be prosecuted. Check with the Refuge staff for availability of horse or stock gates.

Camping

Camping is permitted in designated sites only at the campgrounds and is limited to 14 days in a 28-day period. To protect the solitude within the Refuge, the use of generators is allowed from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm only. Pack out all your trash. Campfires are allowed only in the metal fire rings provided at the campgrounds. Campfires should never be left unattended and must be completely extinguished. Developed Bureau of Land Management campgrounds are available nearby at Irish Canyon and the Taylor Flats Bridge.

Horses

Horseback riding is permitted. Use of certified weed-free hay is recommended to minimize further introduction of invasive plants. Horses are not permitted in the campgrounds overnight. If the corrals by the Swinging Bridge campground are not in use by local ranchers, horses may be kept in these corrals.

Accessible Facilities An accessible waterfowl hunting blind and fishing pier are located near Hog Lake.

Animal and Plant Life Collecting, possessing, or destroying any plant, or animal or part thereof (alive or dead) is prohibited (except legally taken game). Collection of shed antlers is prohibited.

Fishing Regulations Fishing Areas

Fishing is permitted on the Green River and Beaver Creek in accordance with State fishing regulations. To protect breeding and migrating birds, fishing is prohibited on Straddle Bottom and Hog Lake. Colorado pikeminnow, an endangered species, must be released immediately. Use of spears, crossbows, and bows and arrows for taking or attempting to take fish is prohibited.

Hunting Regulations Species Some areas are closed to hunting – be familiar with regulations and boundaries. Hunting is permitted in designated areas for mule deer, elk, ducks, coots, geese, mergansers, mourning doves, and cottontails. All other species are protected from hunting or trapping. Hunting of designated species is restricted to current State seasons only.

Upland Hunting

The Refuge spans Colorado Hunting Units 1 and 201, which are limited quota areas and may not be hunted with a general deer or elk license.

Waterfowl Hunting	Waterfowl hunting is permitted on Straddle Bottom and Hog Lake wetlands. A section of the Straddle Bottom wetland crosses the Utah State line and requires a Utah State hunting license. The Green River is also open to waterfowl hunting except in the closed areas. Hunters must be within 20 yards of the river bank.
Firearms,	Persons possessing, transporting, or
Explosives, and	carrying firearms on National Wildlife
Other Weapons	Refuge System lands must comply

with all provisions of State and local law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with Refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and 50 CFR Part 32).

Carrying, possessing, or discharging explosives including fireworks is

Carrying, possessing, or discharging explosives, including fireworks, is strictly prohibited. Target shooting is prohibited.

Alcohol

Use or possession of alcohol while

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Use or possession of alcohol while hunting on the Refuge is prohibited.

Blinds and Portable blinds or temporary blinds constructed from dead vegetation may

be used. No tree stands, cutting of live vegetation, or digging pit blinds is permitted.

Personal All personal equipment, including decoys and portable blinds, are to be removed from the field after daily

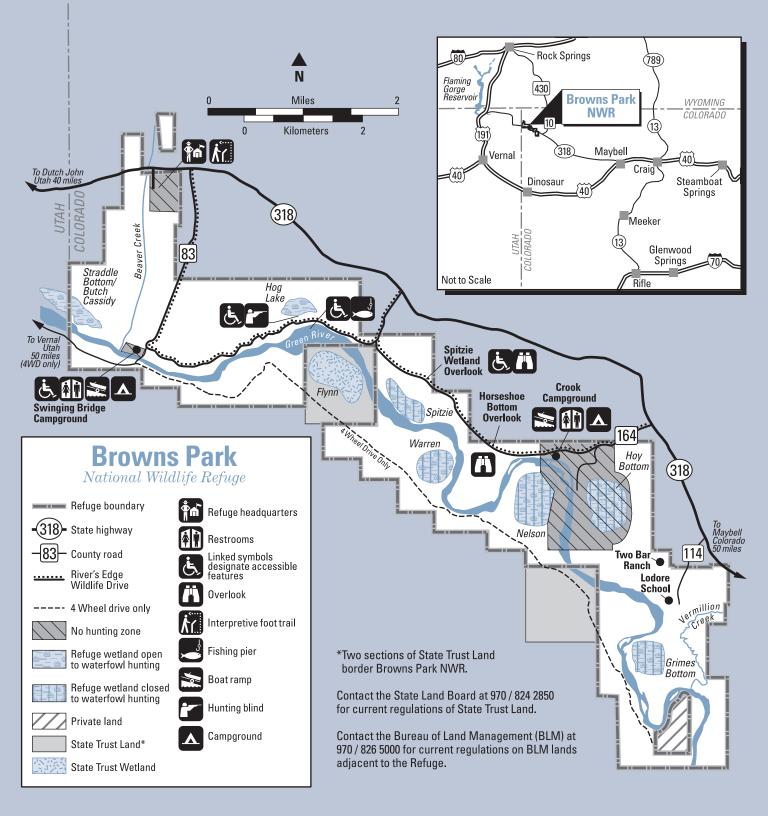
hunting activities are completed.

Dogs

The use of dogs for hunting and retrieving small game is encouraged.

Dogs must be under the owner's control at all times.

Gas Stations are located 60 miles away in Maybell, Colorado, and 37 miles away in Dutch John, Utah.



Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge 1318 Highway 318 Maybell, CO 81640 970 / 365 3613 970 / 365 3614 fax brownspark@fws.gov http://www.fws.gov/refuge/browns_park

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service http://www.fws.gov

For State relay service TTY / Voice: 711

Colorado Division of Wildlife Poaching Hotline 877 / 265 6648

For Refuge Information 1 800 / 344 WILD

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Accessibility Information

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. Dial 711 for a free connection to the State relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from people with hearing and speech disabilities. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 970 / 365 3613, or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.